CLAIMS

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1.   A method for transmitting packet data, comprising the

2 steps of:

3   monitoring packet data transmission traffic between a

4 first switch and a second switch;

5   establishing a switched virtual circuit (SVC) wherein a

6 first end of said SVC in said first switch is assigned a

7 virtual termination address, wherein said address is one of

8 a plurality of software generated dummy addresses created in

9 said first switch fabric;

10   receiving a request from an end user to transmit from

11 said first switch to said second switch; and

12   assigning said end user to said first end of said SVC.

1 2.   The method as set forth in Claim 1 further comprises

2   utilizing a predetermined threshold value of said

3   transmission traffic to determine the number of

4   virtually terminated SVCs to be installed.

1 3. The method as set forth in Claim 1 further comprising

2 the steps of:

3   receiving a request to disconnect said virtually

4 terminated SVC;

5   responsive to said request, disconnecting said first

6 end of said virtually terminated SVC from said end user; and

7   assigning said first end to one of said plurality of

8 dummy addresses, wherein said virtually terminated SVC

9 remains connected.

1 4. The method as set forth in Claim 3, further comprising

2 the step of:

3   responsive to said transmission traffic dropping below

4 a predetermined level, disconnecting said virtually

5 terminated SVC.

1 5. The method as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the step of

2 establishing further comprises utilizing a media gateway

3 controller to establish said virtually terminated SVC

4 between said first and second switch.

1 6. The method as set forth in Claim 1, wherein said media

2 gateway controller maintains a predetermined number of

3 virtually terminated SVCs until said transmission traffic

4 exceeds said threshold value.

1 7. The method as set forth in Claim 1, wherein said

2 plurality of dummy addresses is created by a media gateway.

1 8. The method as set forth in Claim 1, wherein said

2 network is a telecommunications network.

1 9. The method as set forth in Claim 1, wherein said

2 network is a computer network.

1   10. In a network, a system for communicating packet

2   data between a first switch and a second switch in a

3   network, comprising:

4   means for monitoring packet data transmissions between

5   said first and second switches;

6   a media gateway in each of said first and second

7   switches for generating a plurality of dummy addresses in

8   the switch fabric of each of said first and second switch;

9   a media gateway controller for installing a switched

10   virtual circuit between said first and second switch; and

11   means for assigning one of said plurality of dummy

12   addresses to each of a first end and second end of said

13   switched virtual circuit.

1   11. The system as set forth in Claim 10, wherein said media

2   gateway in each of said first and second switches is capable

3   of establishing a predetermined number of said virtual

4   terminations in the switch fabric of each of said first

5   switch and said second switch.

1   12. The system as set forth in Claim 11, wherein said

2   monitoring means further comprises means for comparing a

3   threshold value of said packet data transmission to

4   determine a number of virtually terminated SVCs to be

5   installed.

1   13.   The system as set forth in Claim 10, wherein said

2   controller further comprises:

3   means for receiving a request to disconnect said

4   virtually terminated SVC;

5   responsive to said request means for disconnecting said

6   first end of said virtually terminated SVC from said end

7   user; and

8   means for assigning said first end to one of said

9   plurality of dummy addresses, wherein said virtually

10 terminated SVC remains connected.

1   14. The system as set forth in Claim 10, wherein said

2   controller further comprises means for establishing and

3   maintaining said virtually terminated SVC between said first

4   and second switches.

1   15. The system as set forth in Claim 10, comprises means

2   for disconnecting said virtually terminated SVC when said

3   packet data transmission drops below a predetermined level.

1   16. The system as set forth in Claim 10, wherein said

2   controller is capable of maintaining a predetermined number

3   of virtually terminated SVCs until said packet data

4   transmission exceeds said threshold value.

1   17. The system as set forth in Claim 10, wherein said

2   network is a telecommunications network.

1   18. The system as set forth in Claim 10, wherein said

2   network is a computer network.

1   19. A method for receiving packet data comprising the steps

2   of:

3   monitoring transmission traffic between a first switch

4   and a second switch;

5   establishing a switched virtual circuit (SVC) wherein a

6   second end of said SVC in said second switch is assigned a

7   virtual termination address, wherein said address is one of

8   a plurality of software generated dummy addresses created in

9   said second switch fabric;

10   receiving a signal to receive packet data from said

11   first switch; and

12   assigning an end user to said second end of said SVC.

1   20. The method as set forth in Claim 19 further comprising

2   utilizing a predetermined threshold value of said

3   transmission traffic to determine the number of virtually

4   terminated SVCs to be installed.

1 21. The method as set forth in Claim 19 further comprising

2 the steps of:

3   receiving a request to disconnect said virtually

4 terminated SVC; and

5   responsive to said request, disconnecting said second

6 end of said virtually terminated SVC from said end user and

7 assigning said second end to said one of a plurality of

8 dummy addresses, wherein said virtually terminated SVC

9 remains connected.

1 22. The method as set forth in Claim 19, wherein the step

2 of establishing further comprises:

3   utilizing a media gateway controller to establish and

4 maintain said virtually terminated SVC.

1 23. The method as set forth in Claim 19, further comprising

2 the step of:

3   responsive to said packet data transmission dropping

4 below a predetermined level, disconnecting said virtually

5 terminated SVC.

1 24. The method as set forth in Claim 19, wherein said media

2 gateway controller maintains a predetermined number of

3 virtually terminated SVCs as long as said transmission

4 traffic exceeds said threshold value.

1 25. The method as set forth in Claim 19, wherein said media

2 gateway controller maintains a predetermined number of

3 virtually terminated SVCs as long as said transmission

4 traffic exceeds said threshold value.

1 26. A method for communicating packet data between two

2 switches in a network, comprising:

3   monitoring packet data transmission traffic between a

4 first switch and a second switch;

5   utilizing a predetermined threshold value to determine

6 whether to add additional virtual circuits between said

7 first and second switches;

8   establishing at least one switched virtual circuit

9 (SVC), wherein a first end of said SVC in said first switch

10 and a second end of said SVC in said second switch are each

11 assigned a virtual termination address, wherein each said

12 address are software generated dummy addresses each created

13 in said first and second switch fabric;

14   receiving a request from a first end user to transmit

15 from said first switch to said second switch; and

16   assigning said first end user to said first end of said

17 SVC and a second end user to the second end of said SVC;

18   receiving a disconnect signal from one of said end

19 users;

20   disconnecting each of said first and second end users

21 from said SVC;

22   connecting said first and second end of said SVC to

23 said virtual termination addresses; and

24   tearing down said virtually terminated SVC if said

25 packet data transmission drops below a predetermined level.